



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

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NASHVILLE'S ALICE ANN BARGE HONORED WITH PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

First Tennessean cited for Lifetime Achievement under Obama Administration

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Former science teacher and longtime Nashville Tree Foundation board member Alice Ann Barge was today named recipient of the prestigious President's Call to Service Award.

The award is the highest level among the Presidential Volunteer Service Award categories, and given to individuals who have 4,000 hours or more of volunteer service over a lifetime.

Keep America Beautiful President Matt McKenna presented the award to Mrs. Barge during Tennessee Great American Cleanup celebration activities at the Bicentennial Mall.

The Metro Beautification & Environment Commission (MBEC) was "thrilled" to nominate Mrs. Barge, Director Veronica Frazier said. "Alice Ann has long been a tireless advocate for planting and beautification projects in our city, and her knowledge and love of trees is an inspiration to everyone around her. She was a natural choice for this honor."

As a fourth grade teacher for many years at Oak Hill School in Nashville, Mrs. Barge encouraged her science classes to focus on trees and how they function. Among the numerous student-led projects she initiated was labeling the trees on the property where the school is located, many of which are more than 200 years old and were standing when soldiers camped on the site during the Civil War.

Mrs. Barge was instrumental in the Metro Council establishing the Metropolitan Tree Board in 1985, and has served continuously on the Tree Board and its successor, the Metro Tree Advisory Council, since its inception.

In addition, she has served on the board of the Nashville Tree Foundation since 1986 when it was started. The Foundation's highly popular Big Old Tree Contest followed the guidelines of one of her projects while a teacher.

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